

Listing of Claims:

1-33. (canceled)

34. (currently amended) An electrical connector, comprising:

a housing having a retention structure, the retention structure including a channel extending substantially in a first direction, a recess, and an opening formed therein and extending between the channel and the recess; and

a contact mounted in the channel and comprising:

a medial section;

a mounting portion extending from one end of the medial section and comprising a mounting tab, the mounting tab extending through the opening and contacting the housing so that the housing restrains the contact in the first direction and in a second direction substantially opposite the first direction; and

a compressive mating portion extending from another end of said medial section and having a distal end, wherein the retention structure of said housing engages the distal end of the compressive mating portion of the contact to preload the contact.

35. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 34, further comprising a fusible element secured to the mounting portion of the contact.

36. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 35, wherein the fusible element is positioned at least in part within the recess.

37. (currently amended) The electrical connector of claim 35, wherein the housing comprises a projection located within the opening and securely engaging the mounting tab.

38-42. (Cancelled)